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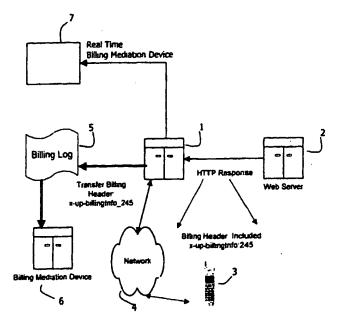
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(54) Title: A NETWORK GATEWAY-BASED BILLING METHOD



(57) Abstract: A gateway (1) routes signals between a WAP mobile phone (3) and an application on a Web server (2). The application generates a message for each of a number of events recognised according to the service being provided. These messages are transmitted to the gateway (1). A billing manager in the gateway (1) directs the messages in real time to a real time mediation device (7) if they relate to a pre-pay service, or alternatively to a billing log (5) for off-line processing. The network operator operating the gateway can thus charge in a manner relating to services provided instead of simply call duration.

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patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, Cl, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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column 8, line 45 -column 10, line 9 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents : *T* later document published after the international filling date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-ments, such combination being obvious to a person sidiled in the art. citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the international filling date but later than the priority date claimed *&* document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 20 July 2001 01/08/2001 Name and mailing address of the ISA **Authorized officer** European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Stergiou, C

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